

(b) if so, the details of suggestions made by Government before the Bench of Supreme Court and whether Chief Vigilance Commissioner would be given autonomous independent powers in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government are seriously contemplating to bring a Bill in this connection; and

(f) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI):

(a) to (c) While hearing Writ Petition (c) No. 539/2003 in the case of murder of Shri Satyendra Dubey, the question of suitable machinery for acting on complaints from Whistle Blowers arose. Accordingly, the Government had issued a Resolution dated 21-4-2004 read with Corrigendum-dated 29-4-2004 authorizing Central Vigilance Commission as the Designated Agency to look into complaints made by whistle blowers and to ensure their protection.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) The Public Interest Disclosures (Protection of informers) Bill 2002, is under consideration.

Tenure for non-creamy layer certificate

2492. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Administrative Tribunal has fixed a three year tenure for non-creamy layer certificates of OBC candidates; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI):

(a) and (b) The Central Administrative Tribunal, Guwahati Bench in O.A. No. 264 of 2005 has expressed the view that certificate regarding

'non-creamy layer' status of an OBC candidate beyond three years becomes stale. The CAT has, however, clarified that the Government is at liberty to make rules reducing or enhancing the said period.

Vigilance awareness week

†2493. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced a policy to celebrate vigilance awareness week to check corruption in its offices;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the number of able and honest officers identified so far by Government;

(d) whether there is any national policy of the Government for elimination of corruption;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, whether Government would formulate such a policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI):

(a) The Vigilance Awareness Week is observed every year since the year 2000, at the instance of the Central Vigilance Commission. The main purpose is to make people in general, and the stakeholders of the respective organizations in particular, aware of the various preventive measures/ systems improvement that had been introduced by the Organization to reduce the scope of corruption.

(b) The observance of the week helps in catalyzing action to fight corruption.

(c) The aim of observing vigilance awareness week is to generate awareness among people against corruption and not to identify able and honest officers.

(d) and (e) The Government is fully committed to implement its policy of 'zero tolerance' of corruption. Several steps have been taken to remove

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi